

REMARKS

The Office Communication states that, because claim 1 contains a recitation of SEQ ID NO: 4 and SEQ ID NO: 6, which were not recited in the originally presented claims, new searches of the databases would be required. This assertion is incorrect.

The inventors teach, for example, in the paragraph bridging pages 9 and 10 of the specification, that SEQ ID NO: 16 comprises the sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 and 14. In other words, SEQ ID NOs: 4 and 6 are fragments of SEQ ID NO: 16. As claim 1(ii) originally contained a recitation directed to fragments of SEQ ID NO: 16, if a proper search of claim 1 has already been performed, SEQ ID NOs: 4 and 6 would necessarily have been included. Therefore, no new searches should be required.

If, on the other hand, a proper search of claim 1 has not been performed and SEQ ID NOs: 4 and 6 have not been searched as fragments of SEQ ID NO: 16, Applicants request that a proper search be performed, and a non-final Office Action or Notice of Allowance issued.

The Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' representative if further clarification of the invention is required.

Respectfully submitted,
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